The Queer Record of "Old Man Hicks" of Indiana

HE BROKE INTO A PRISON

Fig Tells the Story of His Viciseitous and Eventful Career-He Wants Only to Eat and Sleep.

Cancago, May 31 .- On a bench in front of the Clark county, Ind., almsnouse on warm sunny days ets an aged man whose silvery beard is tangled and whose trembling hands and faltering steps tell the story only too plainly that the journey of life is awariy at an end. This is John Hicks. a poor, broken down old sinner, whose only claim to distinction is that he has served fifty years in the penitentiary. He was not a celebrated crook whose coverness baffled the police and made his name a terror to peaceable, lawabiding citizens; the country never rang with his daring exploits, nor was he dashing, handsome or terrible. He was just John Hicks, a man who never had an ambation, and who tell so in was just John Hicks, a man who never had an ambinon, and who tell so in love with prison life after his first sentence that he was never perfectly contented unless he wore the stripes. Now he is but four-teen years from the century mile poet, and the happy smile has never left his face, except when he was worried has face, except when he was worried has ke should not succeed in getting back into prison. He never sighed for riches, nor did he ever express the desire for an education—all he ever wanted was a comfortable cell, three meals a day and a guard to look after his welfare. He was only a humble professional prisoner, with neither kith onal prisoner, with neither kith nor kin to worry over his singular choice. No wife ever shared his lonely hours and no prattling children ever climbed upon his knees; no tailor ever worried him with bills for clothing, and he never took the trouble to form a political opinion, because he never had an opportunity to vote. "Old Man Hicks," as everyone calls him, devoted every energy to being a convict and he did it well for half a century.

Tells of His Pirst Crime. Not long since a Louisville Post re-porter visited the Indiana almshouse, and when he inquired for "Old Man Hicks" he was told that the venerable hicks" he was told that the Venerable pauper was in his accustomed place in the yard. He did not seem surprised when the visitor called him by name and made known his mission. His eyes brightened as his thoughts went back to his beloved cell, but it was only for a moment. Then he said calmly

for a moment. Then he said calmly and quietly, without any apparent regret for the wasted years of his life:

"I suppose you want to hear the story of my life. I verybody does, although I do not see why they should take such an interest in the affairs of an old man they never knew and will never think of again after they leave him. Well," he continued musingly, fumbling with the ragged fringe on his faded coat, "I was born in Montgomery yountly. Virginia, eighty-six years ago. faded coat, "I was born in Montgomery county, Virginia, eighty-six years ago. My parents were poor, and died when I was but a child. I had no brothers nor sisters, and I went to live with a neighbor who taught me the blacksmith trade when he found I would not go to school. My master's same was Neal and he was fairly good to me, but when I grew up I decided to leave him and come to Indiana. For awhile I drove a stage between Hamilton and Centerville.but I gave it up and a place as stage driver for Scots, between Salem and Li-Seard & Scott, between Salem and Livonia. One day while waiting for my
sinner at the house of a farmer
I saw a pocketbook in a bureau drawer
that had been left open. It contained
\$160 which I at once took possession of.
I got three years for this, which I
served and went to Washington, Daviess
county, where I stole \$500 from a man
whose name I do not remember. I whose name I do not remember. I think it was Thomas, but it was such a long while ago I am not sure. They gave me seven years for the offense, and after serving six years I was parapped by Governor Joe Wright.

Gives Ten Years, Though lunecent.

"When I got out I went to Bedford and worked at my trade until they arneted me for criminally assaulting a comm. I was innocent, but I never sok the trouble to deny it, and the try gave me ten years. Five years ad been served before it was discovered that I was not guilty, and Governor Willard pardoned me. At Insurapolis I committed a burglary and the try of these years. Another was given three years. Another buggiary at Brookville brought me four years, and still another at Crawfordse got me four years at the Michigan

enitentiary. try some other prison, and went to Louisville, Ill. An alleged criminal emault upon a weman was the cause of my serving ten years at Joliet. My term expired and I next fell at Hamilnie, where I served two years for ary. Afterward I served in ylvania and Ohio again and then went back to Jeffersonville. By this time I was old, and I longed for my cell in the Jeffersonville prises. It was more comfortable than any I had er occupied, and, in fact, the prison tre is the most humane in the entry. Weil, I walked all the way from Columbus to Jeffersonville, and calling upon the late Captain Craig, who was then duputy warden. I asked him to give me a home in the prison, saying I was too old to work and wanted to spend my few remaining days there. He said he could not do so, and I resolved to make him do it.

Broke Into Jail Deliberately. ing up to Paoli, in Orange coun-obbed a house and took good care my should catch me at it. The sine to trial, and after I had told judge my story the judge kindly need me to five years. He would made it more but he said he ht I would not live longer than I thanked him and went to But I was still alive when the entence expired, an' going to the torthern part of the state I robbed a man and got a year at Michigan City. Then I came back to Jeffersonville, and I had a change to steal anything. when I began my prison career I six feet tall and weighed 200 ands. I was probably the strongest in the state. My first sentence in ersonville was served in a little log in at the corner of Ohio avenue Market street. I was superintendent of the iron works on the new priese, which was built in 1847, and if I do tay it myself, the job was well done. Plus maile me kraper of the big gate in the south side, just west of the office. Once, when the gate was open to live a wagon out, fifty desparate convicts made a break for liberty. Snatching an iron har from the tool chest, I planted myself in the passage way and he is them all at have until the guards arrived and look them in charge.

"No, I den't once for menay. Give the iron works on the new pris-

WAS LONG IN JAIL me a cnew of tobacco. Thanks. WILL IT NOT STOP

RUINAD BY THE CORNER. Coster & Martin of Chicago Are Unable to Carry Through the Deal.

CHICAGO, May 31.—The great corner in May corn reacked its culmination and collapse during the morning. In the collapse the firm of Coster & Martin.

Residents Driven from Their Homes by which has engineered the movement, was pulled down, and corn, which opened at \$1, dropped without an intermediate quotation to 60, to 50 and then to 69 cents a bushel. When the announcement of the failure was made on the board of trade a howl went up from the floor and for a few minutes the excitement in the pit was at fever heat. Bro kers fell over each other in their haste to close out their deals, and for five or ten panic appeared imminent, but finally the market regained its level, and the great corner in May was a thing of the past. Estimates of the liabilities of Coster & Martin are conflicting and range from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000.

FATAL FIGHT WITH ROBBERS. An Lows Man Decoyed from His Home

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia. May 31. - Early

Monday morning a bold attempt at

highway robbery was made in this city, in which one of the robbers was killed and W. F. Jones, their victim, was fatally wounded. The details reveal a villainous plot. Jones is manager of the Sandwich Manufacturing Company of this city and formerly lived at Sandwich, Ill. He came here from Fremont, Neb., about a year ago and took charge of the company's business. For several days he has been under the influence of liquor and Sunday night fell in with a gang of notorious toughs well known to the police of this city and elsewhere. Jones was home early in the evening with his family. A messenger called with the information that a man the hotel and that was the was found on a dark street in the rea of the Ogden house nearer dead than alive. He had a wound on his head caused by a blunt instrument, and a bullet hole in the right side of his ab-domen. His right hand clutched a revolver with several chambers empty. He could speak, but was too weak to give any definite information of the affair further than it was an attempted robbery. He was removed to the hos-pital and placed under the influence of

On Broadway, near a hack, about a block from where Jones was found, the dead body of Jack Wade was discovered with a pistol wound in his breast. Wade is a notorious tough, formerly of Denver. Near the dead man lay a revolver with four empty chambers. Later James Maher, an all-round crook and desperado, and "Tom" Crogan, a hack driver, were arrested. The latter made a statement to the chief of police. Maher, he said, was the leader of the gang. When Jones began firing part of the robbers fled along with Wade, who, after being hit, ran a short distance to where his hack stood and tried to climb upon posed that Wade shot Jones, and one of the others then struck him over the head with a billy or club. A woman who works in a house near by says that the men dragged Jones' body through the yard and left him on the street where he was found. She says the shooting occurred at a point where Wade's body was found. Jones had a large sum of money on his person, which the robbers failed to secure.

opiates, in which condition he remains.

AURORA, Ill., May 31 .- Fred O. White, one of Aurora's foremost citizens, whose name is identified with many public institutions and public contracts. public institutions and public enter-prises in this city, died Monday morn-ing in his 53d year. Mr. White was one of the founders of the public li-brary building and Memorial hall, a trustee of Jennings seminary, was secretary of the west side school board for eighteen years, was mayor of Aurora and a member of the board appointed by the governor which located the Illi-neis soldiers' home at Quincy.

DATTON, O., May 31.—The report that the Barney & Smith car works of this city had sold the plant to a syndicate is verified by an interview with Eugene J. Barney, president, and J. D. Piatt, vice-president of the company. The consideration ie\$4,590,000, cash in hand. The syndicate will take possession of the works June 1. The plant covers 20 acres of buildings and yards and employs 1,300 men.

Death from a Blow by a Be MILWAUKER, May 31 -- Melcher Wester, a student at St. Francis' seminary, was playing ball Sunday evening when he was struck on the left temple by a swiftly pitched ball. At first it was not thought that he was severely hurt, but congestion of the brain set in and he died during the night. He was 16 years old. His home was at Belgium,

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., May 31.-In pur suance of the proclamation of Gov. Fifer calling upon the people to con-tribute mover, food and clothing for the relief of the flood sufferers Mayor Foster, of this city, has issued a call for a meeting of the citizens to be held Thursday evening to take action in the

A Young Lady's Fate. PRINCETON, Kan., May 81.—Miss Nel-lie Baum, the 18-year-old daughter of John Baum, a prominent farmer living near here, was dragged to death by a runaway horse. The young lady was just stepping into the buggy when the horse started and caught her feet in the reins. She was found dead on the

New Yone, May 3t.—Lewis Morris Rutherford, whose unsurpassed photographs of the moon were but a part of the results of studies in astronomy and the results of studies in astronomy and physics which made him an authority, died Monday in his 75th year at the home to which had retired in Tranquil-

Panes, May \$1.—D'Arbiay's mills of Corbeil, with 78,000 bushels of wheat, were burned K'suday. Twenty em-playes were injured, some perhaps fo-

Indianapolis Visited by a Terrific Rain Storm

the Water-Furious Storms in

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 31 .- Indianpoolis and central Indiana have had few such rains as fell Monday night and up to 5 o'clock a. m. In effect it amounted to a cloudburst. At 4 o'clock Monday evening the clouds began to empty, and a perfect sheet of water fell from then until 10 o'clock. The rain continued at intervals throughout the night. By 7 o'clock most of the principal streets were full, and the water was running over the curbs onto the sidewalk and into the yards. Pouges run, a sn.all stream running through the center of the city, left its banks and invaded the the city, left its banks and invaded the bouses along its route. At midnight many people had to take up their beds and walk in order to escape drowning. Several bridges were washed away. At dark Monday evening the electric cars resembled stenuboats as they plowed their way along the tracks dashing the water to the curb on either side. White giver and Pall creek are on the rank river and Fall creek are on the rainpage and several northern suburbs are reported under water.

CALDWELL, Kan., May 31.-Two distinct tornadoes passed from southwest to northeast north of Caldwell Sunday night. One man is known to have been killed and much damage was done to farm property. The funnel-shaped clouds were distinctly visible from both Caldwell and Conway Springs, but no details of the destruction have been obtained yet. The first

and tore down five houses, but injured no one. The people had sufficient warning to escape to their cellars.

Conwin, Kan., May 31 .- A small tornado passed north of this city, doing an immense amount of damage to the farming community, uprooting trees and tearing down dwellings and barns. No report of loss of life or injuries has been received. One farmer lost ten head of cows and three horses.

ATTICA, Kan., May 31.-A waterspout formed northwest of this place about 5 o'clock and for about an hour the whole country was flooded to such an extent that the wheat was washed from the ground and several head of

Heavy Rain at Wellington.

Wellington, Kan., May 31.—The most terrific rainstorm that ever visited this section fell between the hours of 2 and 4 o'clock Monday morning. The water came down in torrents, and the streets were running rivers within ten minutes. Unroofed stores and residences were flooded, greatly adding to the misery and distress caused by the recent tornado. Merchandise in the debris which could have been saved with partial damage is now ruined. About twenty prominent firms, occupying unroofed buildings, are more or less damaged. Many destitute people are sick and suffering for the want of food, clothing and shelter and it is an utter impossibility for those who still have their houses intact to accommodate all. The situation can be better appreciated when it is understood that before the tornado there was not an empty house in the city fit for habitation. A large force of tinners, carpenters and stone-masons, glaziers and la-borers of every kind are at work re-building the partially wrecked build-

ALTON, Ill., May \$1 .- The river goes down so slowly as to cause grave ap-prehensions of even higher water than the stage of ten days ago. The flooded districts are still covered with water. It is raining every day and the prospects of growing any kind fof a crop in the bottom lands are fading fast. The unfortunates harbored here are beginning to suffer greatly and the calls for financial aid are becoming much more fre-quent. The funds of the local relief committee are getting low. So far the entire expense has been borne by the citizens of Alton, but it will soon be necessary to call for state aid. Gov. Francis, of Missouri, has written to the authorities here promising to pro-vide for the people of that state who are harbored here. So far the contributions of food and clothing received by Dr. W.

A. Haskell have been light, consisting of a few small boxes from Chicago and Springfield. Chairman Trocckeler, of the Madison county board of supervisors, has called a special meeting of that body for Wednesday of this week, when an ap propriation will probably be voted for the relief of the farmers in the American bottoms.

Reports of Cyclone Damage. OLNEY, Ill., May 31.-The reports from the exclone which passed east of this city Saturday evening show that no damage was done in German township, this county, and Crawford county, adjoining. The following are those who so far are reported damaged: Harrison Jones, orchard ruined; William Musgrave, orchard ruined; William Bunghan, barn down and orchard ruined: Dr. Legg's house dam-aged and orchard nearly ruined; James Huston, barn down and horse killed: H. Wilkinson, orehard ruined and out-buildings down; Prairie Hail, Christian church completely demoished; Daniel Baker's house, ontbuildings and barn were completely destroyed, a little girl being hurt, not fatally. The damage to orehards and buildings in this county will amount to over \$15,000.

New York, May \$1.—A St. Peters-burg dispatch says that the grain sent from lows for the famine sufferers in Russia has been unloaded and dis-patched to the distressed provinces. It

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 81.—On Clear rock, 5 miles from Pineville, Monday,

noth were young men. Iney asu a quarrel of some months' standing. Evans escaped

New York, May 31.—The Woman's National Industrial league has adopted resolutions protesting against the omis-sion of women from the celebration in honor of the landing of Columbua.

Two Regulta Records Broken. NEWARK, N. J., May 81.—Two records were broken Monday in the Passaic river regatta. In the junior sincoared gig race the Passaic crew won in 8:11, beating the record by four seconds. In the senior eight-oared shell race the Cornell crew won in 7:21, beating the record by sixteen seconds.

Waves Mountain High.

Or something less—threaten, during a storm, to engulf the venturous voyager on the temperature of the control of the co

Lily White Flour Is made from the choicest wheat. Don't fool with indigestion. Take

Bucklen' Arnica Salva.

The best salve in the world for cuts, The best salve in the world for cuts, bruises, sores, ulcers, salt rheum, fever sores, tetter, chapped hands, chilbians, corns and all skin eruptions, and positively cures piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Peck Bros., druggists, owner Monroe and Division-sts.

Sell Chicago Real Estate. Chicago real estate almost sells itself, tion have been obtained yet. The first storm is said to have seemed to carry everything before it, but the swath cut was narrower than usual.

Medicink Lodge, Kan., May 31.—A report has been received here that a small tornado struck the country near Roundup, 13 miles southwest of here, and tore down five houses, but injured no one. The people had sufficient

building contracted for—because they get Chicago freight rates everywhere; cheap fuel; cheap building material; low taxes. This property is selling rapidly now, and heavy, judicious advertising is going to stimulate sales. A live, progressive man, with a following, can learn of a business opening of a very profitable nature by writing today to the Chicago Heights Land Association, Chamber of Commerce, Chicago. Ask for their booklet, "Chicago's Beaten Path." Best references required.

When Traveling When Traveling
Whether on pleasure bent, or business, take on every trip a bottle or Syrup of Figs, us it acts most pleasantly and effectively on the kidneys, liver and bowels, preventing fevers, headaches and other forms of sickness. For sale in 50 cents and \$1 bottles by all leading draggists.

Order GRANT ICE CO. Phone Ice of GRANT ICE CO. 238.

Pronounced Hopeless Yet Cured. From a letter written by Mrs. d. Hurd. of Groton, S. D., we quo ettled on my Lungs, cough set in and dinally terminated in Consumption Four doctors gave me up, saying that I could live but a shorft time. I gav myself up to my Savior, determined I could not stay with my friends ~ earth. I would meet my absent ones above. My husband was advised to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Con-umption. Coughs and Colds. I gave it a trial, took in all, eight bottles; it has cured me, and thank God I arn now a well and hearty woman." Bottles 10 cents at Peck Bros.' drugstore regular size, 50c and \$1.00.

Doctors disagree. They have to. There are differences of opinion among the best; there will be so long as knowledge is incomplete.

But there is one subject on which all physicians are completely in accord, and that is the value of cod-liver oil in consumption and scrofula, and many other conditions in which the loss of fat is involved. And cod-liver oil has its greatest usefulness in Scott's Emulsion.

There is an interesting book on the subject; sent free.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, 132 South 5th Avenue. Iow York. Your druggist keeps Scott's Emulsion of cod-lives all-all druggests everywhere do. \$1.

DO YOU ELLIOTT & CO. M.C. GOOSSEN DANE & WITTERS, SANBORN'S

JOHN CORDES SEAL NORMAN BRAND COFFEE IN TWO POUND CANS

OUICK

AND THE

DEAD

WOODS' ENETRATING PLASTER. o QUICE. Others comparison are slow DEAD. If suffering

O.DETT

EXTRACT CURES

Piles

Boils

Soreness

Wounds

Bruises Sunburn

Sprains.

Chafing Sore Eyes

Sore Feet Mosquito Bites Hemorrhages

Inflammation

AVOID SUBSTITUTES

POND'S EXTRACT CO., NEW YORK

KIRK'S DUSKY

Lemoves and Prevents Dandruff. AMERICAN FAMILY SOAP. Best for General Household Use.



CURES HEADACHE CURES

HEADACHE



**ATOFOLKS** 'ANTI-CORPULENE PILLS" Reduce Flesh I S pounds a Month-Cause an election recible an price, and fore fail. Breggies or by mail. Be La Monte's Complexion Wafers bleach the skin snow white hopes, or by med. Particular (select) i WILCOX SPECIFIC CO., P>ILA., PA.





Ask Drugginta. Sent to any address for \$1.00 MALYDOR MANUF'G CO., LANCASTOR.O

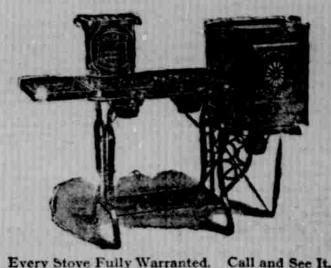
## Have You Seen It?

## WE HAVE IT.

The Vexed Oil Question Finally Solved.

A Vapor Stove that is simple, perfect and ABSOLU-TELY SAFE. No complications, nothing to rust, clog or get out of repair. Warranted to successfully vaporize and burn any combustible oil, whether gasolene, naptha, kerosene or any mixture thereof, with most perfect and satisfactory results. Here it is,

The Universal Oilgas Stove



THE GUNN HARDWARE CO., 47-49 Monroe St.

THIS WEEK

Delicate Swiss Muslins for Curtains and many other Novelties that were received too late for the early spring trade.

SMITH & SANFORD,

68 MONROE STREET.

WEDDING GIFTS.

SPECIAL DESIGNS FOR NEW WORK

7. C. HERKNER

MONROE STREET.

SPECTACLES FITTED Competent Optician.

SPROUL & McGURRIN. Plumbing, Steam and Hot Water Heating - HOT AIR FURNACES, -

Mantels, Grates and Tiling, Gas and Electric Fixtures, ETC., ETC., ETC.

Ret Diamond Hose and other brands. Water and Sewer Connections. Pastour Pile-ers which kill all microbes and germs and make water absolutely pure. Deugine' Listantaneous Water Heater, designed for Baths. Wholesale and Retail Dealers in Plumbers' Supplies. 184 East Fulton St., (Telephone 147) Grand Rapids, Mich



3,500 ft. Floor Space. WE TEACH ALL TO KIDE FREE. COM PETENT INSTRUCTORS FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

BUY A BICZCLE OF PERKINS & RICHMOND. 13 Fountain St.

ERIE AND MILL STREET

Hack and CutterTrimming

"WELL BRED, SOON WED."

ARE QUICKLY MARRIED. TRY IT IN YOUR NEXT HOUSE-CLEANING.